

# AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR BIPOLAR DISORDERS LTD



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**Australasian Society of Bipolar Disorders/AstraZeneca**

# Scholarship 2011

**(PhD by research or MD by research)**

**Suitably qualified individuals looking to build a career in the area of Bipolar Disorder research are invited to apply for the 2011 ASBD/AstraZeneca scholarship, proudly presented by the Australasian Society of Bipolar Disorders and AstraZeneca.**

The object of the Scholarship is:

- To provide salary support for an investigator studying (or proposing to study) any aspect of bipolar disorder within Australasia;
- To stimulate collaborative research activities within Australasia by facilitating communication between participants in specified fields; and
- To support such a researcher in this area for up to three years.

## **Remuneration**

A scholarship of \$30,000 per annum for up to three years, plus a one-off \$5,000 research allowance, together with an economy return airfare from anywhere within Australasia to the next ASBD Conference (if not in the recipient's home state). The Conference Registration fee will be paid for the successful applicant, who will be expected to commence studies within 6 months of receipt of the award. Scholarship payments will commence when studies start.

A top-up scholarship may be payable to an appropriately qualified candidate.

The successful applicant will be granted membership of the ASBD for the duration of their Scholarship.

Funding may also be sought/obtained from other sources, where this funding is declared to the ASBD.



## Assessment

Submitted applications will be independently ranked by a panel of experts in the area, including experts both within Australia and overseas.

The decision of the panel is final and no negotiations will be entered into.

## Selection Criteria

Eligible applications will be assessed against the following selection criteria:

*(Please address **ALL** criteria in your application)*

- A proven record of academic achievement including Letter of Acceptance for the relevant post graduate degree;
- Clear opportunities for collaboration with relevant professionals/organisations within the Australasian region;
- The project is professionally presented, methodologically well defined and complies with relevant ethical standards;
- A project protocol is submitted;
- The project is relevant to the needs and interests of people living with bipolar disorder and their families or caregivers;
- A proposal that is internationally competitive;
- Adequate supervision, mentoring and support to effect research would be available to the candidate while in receipt of the scholarship. (Please note that supervision and equipment must be provided by your employer/supervisor. It is the candidate's responsibility to investigate/organise and include details in the application.);
- The proposed supervisor commits to making sufficient resources available in their unit to support the research of the scholarship holder;
- A letter of support from the Director or Head of the research facility in which the study would be undertaken is included with the application;
- The realistic budget for the funds requested. Any other income streams that may be required for the project are clearly indicated in the application and are not inconsistent with the goals/philosophy of the ASBD; and
- The applicant needs to obtain written ethical approval for the project from the hospital/facility in which it will be undertaken.

## The Recipient's Obligations

The successful award recipient **MUST** provide to ASBD:

- An annual progress report no later than one month after the anniversary of the scholarship commencement date;
- A detailed research report within 6 months of the completion of the project and/or the period of this scholarship;
- Acknowledge ASBD and the scholarship in **ALL** publications arising from the research;
- Copies of **ALL** publications arising from this research either during or after the scholarship period. Copies must be provided to ASBD within one month of the publication date;



- Immediate notification of any inability to continue or complete the scholarship; and
- The successful applicant will be invited to present a paper on the topic of the thesis at the ASBD meeting corresponding with the end of the research.

## **Scholarship and/or Research Payments**

The scholarship will be awarded at \$30,000 per annum plus a \$5,000 one-off, start-up research allowance. One economy return airfare from anywhere within Australasia to the next ASBD Conference if not in the recipient's home state and ASBD conference registration fee will be provided for the ASBD Conference at which the Scholarship Presentation is given.

The initial 3-month payment and one-off allowance will be paid when the project commences. Subsequent payments will be 3 months in arrears. (NB. the second payment will be made 6 months after starting the scholarship.)

The final payment will be withheld until **ALL** the obligations of the scholarship holder are discharged, such as the provision of the final report

If there is no final report provided to ASBD within 6 months of completion of the scholarship, the final payment will be forfeited

If the scholarship holder fails to meet the conditions of the scholarship, the scholarship will lapse and further payments will cease. This will be at the sole discretion of the ASBD.

Should the project be completed early, the scholarship shall be paid pro rata for the time spent on the research.

ASBD shall provide to the Scholarship recipient at the commencement of the scholarship a letter confirming these terms and conditions, and setting out the key dates.

## **Process**

Applications should be prepared as outlined below and submitted electronically to [admin@bipolar disorders.com.au](mailto:admin@bipolar disorders.com.au) by 11:59PM, Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) on **30 September 2010**.

Applications will be considered by the selection panel. Applications will be considered against the Selection Criteria (above).

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by email by the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

The ASBD committee can choose to award or not award the Scholarship at its discretion. If the Scholarship is not awarded in one calendar year, funds will be rolled over to the next calendar year.

**Applications Close 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010.**  
**Late applications will NOT be considered.**



## **Application Format**

To be considered, all applications **MUST**:

- Be complete (incomplete applications will not be considered);
- Submitted on/ before the closing date/time;
- Address **ALL** the selection criteria;
- Include **ALL** of the following: and
  - An Application Protocol,
  - A Letter of Support from the Director or Head of the research facility/department in which the project would be undertaken detailing resources available, supervision and mentoring arrangements, and
  - Your current Curriculum Vitae

A research protocol needs to be submitted, in the following format:

- Background;
- methods including statistical plan;
- outcomes and significance; and
- references.

The maximum length for research protocols should be 4 pages including references. All applications should be in Times New Roman font size 12 and single spaced.

Applications should be submitted electronically to [admin@bipolarorders.com.au](mailto:admin@bipolarorders.com.au).

Queries should be directed to the ASBD Administrative Officer.

## **Presentation**

The award will be officially presented at the biennial ASBD Conference (next scheduled for October 2011).

### **Applications Close 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010.**

#### **Australasian Society of Bipolar Disorders**

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